

Camp Butler, Newports News
June 9th 1861. Va.

My dear wife:

Sunday P. M.

Your letter of June 6th was duly rec'd last night, Saturday the 8th. So you see that we get letters thro pretty quick, and I presume that we have received every letter that has been written. You complain that I do not write often enough - I should be glad to write much often had I time, for I have very much that is interesting and should like to tell you all I can. We all have to work hard. No one who has never been in a camp of four thousand soldiers can imagine how much there is to be done. My business as "Provost Marshall" calls me over the whole camp - five regiments - I say five regiments - Yesterday Col. Hawkins' Louisiana, or the 4th N. Y. Regt. came in and encamped in front of us between our line of sentinels and the woods. You will see where, by the plan I sent you. (Write me if you have rec'd it.) Day before yesterday the N. Y. 7th Regt. came in and encamped on the right of the Germans. Now we have five regts. of 780 men each, or 3900 men, - probably counting waiters & all we have 4000, or about 3500 fighting men. Vermont counts herself second to none as yet, especially since our Col. commands the post. He has under his command